



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION • 311 SOUTH SPRING STREET – SUITE 1206, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90013 • (213) 626-0370

## MINUTES

August 23, 1978

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Kenneth Hahn at 3:10 p.m.

### Members present:

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn  
Supervisor Baxter Ward  
Mayor Edmond Russ  
Councilman John Ferraro  
Councilman John Zimmerman  
Councilman Russell Rubley  
Wendell Cox  
Ray Remy, alternate for Mayor Bradley  
Robert Geoghegan, alternate for Supervisor Edelman  
Peter Tweedt, alternate for Supervisor Schabarum  
Barna Szabo, alternate for Supervisor Hayes  
Robert Datel (non-voting member)

### Staff members present:

Jerome C. Premo, Executive Director  
Ronald Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel  
Kathy Torigoe, Secretary to Executive Director

### Approval of Minutes

Ray Remy asked that the July 26 minutes, page 7, be corrected to show Assemblyman Ingalls, instead of Senator, and AB 3260 instead of SB 3260. Minutes of July 26, 1978 were approved, as corrected.

### Committee Reports

#### Administrative Committee

John Zimmerman reported on the committee's meeting of August 21 and their recommendations are as follows:

1. Consultant contract to compare and contrast Sunset, Ltd. and Caltrans Freeway Transit proposals:

At the July 26 meeting, the Commission discussed the idea of employing a consultant to review and contrast the Sunset, Ltd. and the Caltrans freeway transit proposals. Staff was directed to prepare a draft Request for Proposals and circulate it to the Commission members for comments and then to the Administrative Committee for consideration on August 21. A revised copy of the draft Request for Proposal was attached to the agenda. Commissioner Zimmerman stated that he had just received a letter Supervisor Baxter Ward regarding this matter.

M/S - That the request for proposals, as contained in the agenda and modified by the Administrative Committee, be approved and circulated to all known firms of reputable reputation who are qualified to do this type of work.

Mayor Russ indicated two concerns he had with the study: 1) that it may be premature to proceed since none of the Commissioners had read the Executive Summary of the Caltrans Freeway Transit Report as yet, and; 2) Supervisor Ward's ballot question on transit may make the study academic.

Councilman Rubley inquired about the Board of Supervisors' action on the November ballot question since the Commission had not been involved in the deliberations.

Jerry Leonard explained that the ballot question approved by the Board of Supervisors was advisory and would ask whether the public would prefer that rapid transit be built in the Wilshire Corridor or from Downtown to Los Angeles International Airport. He indicated that the ballot question and consultant contract were related but not totally overlapping.

Councilman Rubley agreed with Mayor Russ that spending money on a study that was also the subject of a popular referendum might not be a prudent expenditure of funds.

Jerry Leonard said the study addressed the question of what mode, while the public advisory asked where.

Chairman Hahn suggested that this matter be referred back to the Administrative Committee for further review and discussion.

Peter Tweedt asked about the ballot initiative measure which was approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 17, 1978. (A xeroxed copy of Supervisor Baxter Ward's motion was handed out of each Commissioner.) Mr. Tweedt expressed concern that the ballot question directed the Commission to proceed on a specific project.

Chairman Hahn stated that when Supervisor Ward arrives, the ballot issue would be discussed.

M/S/C - That the RFP be referred back to the Administrative Committee, to be brought back to the Commission at an appropriate time.

Robert Geoghegan suggested that, because the RFP is also a matter of great concern to Supervisor Ward, both the ballot initiative issue and RFP be discussed when the Supervisor arrives.

2. Contract to study and make recommendations on transit consolidation in the South Bay Area:

Commissioner Zimmerman reported that at the July 26 meeting, staff was directed to prepare a specific scope of work in relation to the matter of near-term options for transit in the South Bay area. The Administrative Committee considered the scope of work and concurs that such a study is needed, but was reluctant to take a position on whether the contract of ATE should be extended or whether there should be a request for proposals. The recommendations of the committee are:

- 1) If the ATE contract is not extended, there should be specific language in the RFP that would exclude any contractors having to do with existing operations in the South Bay Area.
- 2) Maximum fee would be \$75,000.
- 3) A limit of 120 working days.

Chairman Hahn solicited the views of Commission members regarding their opinion on ATE's performance to date. All spoke favorably of the work to date.

M/S/C - That the Commission extend the existing contract to ATE for \$75,000.

Countywide

Administrative Committee deferred indefinitely any action on this matter.

3. Opinion Research transportation attitude surveys.  
Analysis of final results:

Administrative Committee recommends that staff be directed to examine all recent transit survey results, together with the results obtained by the Opinion Research, and prepare a data bank that can be used for future activities of the Commission.

M/S/C - Approved committee's recommendation.

4. Authorization for a staff member to sign official documents in the absence of the Executive Director:

The Administrative Committee recommends that the existing practice of the Executive Director naming Joe Leach to act in his absence be confirmed by minute order.

M/S/C - Approved committee's recommendation.

5. Travel authorization for Staff members attending seminars:

The Administrative Committee recommends that staff's travel expense be limited to occasions where staff members are actually participating in activities directly related to the Commission, and recommends staff attendance to the American Institute of Planners Annual Conference in New Orleans and to the Public Relations Society of America National Conference not be approved as official travel. If staff wishes to attend at personal expense, no leave time will be assessed.

M/S/C - Approved committee's recommendation.

#### Visit by Secretary Brock Adams

Chairman Hahn announced that Secretary Adams is visiting Los Angeles tomorrow (August 24). This visit was initiated by Congressmen Glenn Anderson and Charles Wilson. The Secretary of Transportation's tour of the Century Freeway route will begin at Downey and Chairman Hahn invited members of the Commission to attend.

## Committee Reports (continued)

## Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Ray Remy reported on the committee's meeting of August 21, 1978.

## State Legislation -

AB 3328 (Berman) - LACTC's 1/2¢ flexibility bill.

Commission has authorized and supported this bill. The bill passed Senate Public Utilities, Transit and Energy Committee on August 18 and has reached the Senate floor. Executive Director reported on the discussion with the RTD Board and RTD's motion that Jerry Premo report to the Commission the view of the RTD Board, specifically that they would prefer to see action on this bill delayed until next year, rather than to act on it this year.

Mayor Russ commended staff for their work in Sacramento. He also expressed concern on lack of communication by RTD on position on this bill and suggested that in the future RTD should communicate earlier with this Commission on their position on various bills. There was no Commission support for requesting the Legislature to delay action on AB 3328.

AB 3020 (Lanterman) - Relating to the \$66 million shortfall.

Bill has passed the Senate Finance Committee on August 17 and is now on the Senate floor. Committee requests an action that, if the bill does clear the Senate, the Chairman of this Commission be instructed to write to the Governor and urge his signature on the bill and communicate with other interested agencies for similar letters of support to the bill.

M/S/C - Approved committee's request for action.

John Zimmerman asked if a similar motion would be in order for AB 3328 also.

Ray Remy replied positively; a letter of support for AB 3328, if appropriate, should also be prepared.

AB 2435 (Ingalls) - Cleanup legislation to AB 1246.

Commission has supported this measure and is now on the Senate floor. There is no further action which the Commission needs to take on this measure.

SB 1899, AB 3260, and SB 1906

Bills have died in the Legislature.

SB 1735 (Mills) - Relating to the allocation of Proposition 5 funds to San Diego County.

Committee's recommendation is, since the measure is likely to pass the Legislature, that unless the Senator or the interested parties can show that Los Angeles County would not be disadvantaged in any way with existing funds, that we ask for a veto from the Governor if the bill is approved.

SB 1440 (Mills)- Relating to the use of UMTA Section 5 funds for Commuter Rail Services.

Bill has passed Assembly Ways and Means Committee on August 16 and has now reached the Assembly floor. The Commission has opposed this measure before because it authorizes only Caltrans to use the limited Section 5 funds to provide commuter and intercity bus passenger services. It is felt these services, if required, could be better provided by existing transit operators, such as SCRTD. The committee recommends continuing opposition to this bill.

Federal Legislation -

House: Congressman Howard - The Administration has clearly indicated that the bill is some \$3 to \$4 billion in excess annually of what the President can accept. Congressman Howard has indicated his willingness to cut it by \$1.4 billion but it is still substantially higher than what the Administration's budget target is. The House is in recess now and they will take it up after Labor Day.

Senate: the Senate highway bill has passed the Senate. The Senate public transportation bill is going to be scheduled for the end of this week or the first of next week. The Intergovernmental Relations Committee has supported the bill.

Clean Air Act

The South Coast Air Quality Management District and the Southern California Association of Governments are working jointly on the Clean Air Act.

Mr. Jim Gosnell of SCAG gave a presentation of the plan. He handed out information which summarizes various pieces of information on the Plan (EXHIBIT A). Mr. Gosnell asked the Commission to become more formally involved in the decision-making process as related to the Air Quality Management Plan.

Ray Remy stated that the Intergovernmental Relations Committee has a recommended involvement for the Commission in its schedule. The TAC will review the Preliminary Draft Plan in summary form, as a basis for the Commission's making recommendations and modifications on those parts of the plan that relate to transportation. On September and November 22, the Commission should review transportation aspects. Committee recommends that this matter should be an agenda item for the two Commission meeting dates.

#### Caltrans-Air Resources Board Memorandum of Understanding

Ray Remy stated that he testified on August 11 on behalf of the Commission before a Hearing Board of the Air Resources Board and Caltrans.

Staff will prepare response to latest draft Memorandum of Understanding.

M/S/C - Adopted report of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

#### Finance Review Committee

Peter Tweedt reported on the committee's meeting of August 23, 1978. Recommendations of the committee are shown as EXHIBIT B.

Significant correction of the minutes of the July 24 Finance Review Committee meeting: Caltrans representatives have agreed to provide the Commission with a Memorandum of Understanding stating that during or after the trial period on the 60/605 ramp metering test, Caltrans will terminate the project if requested to by the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission.

At the August 23 meeting, the FRC took the following actions as shown as EXHIBIT B .

M/S/C - Approved the Finance Review Committee's report.

#### Transit Advisory Measure Proposed for the Ballot

Peter Tweedt expressed concern about the action taken by the Board of Supervisors on August 17, placing on the ballot Supervisor Baxter Ward's motion. He believed that it was premature and would tie the Commission's hands in terms of going to the voters in the future for some kind of a rapid transit program.

Mr. Tweedt moved that the Commission ask the Board of Supervisors to reconsider their action on this proposal at the earliest possible date.

Chairman Hahn indicated he understood that members of the Commission would be concerned with the speed at which the ballot measure was considered by the Board. He described the background to the Board's action and his belief that the ballot question would spur public discussion on public transportation.

Supervisor Ward indicated that the purpose of his ballot measure is to bring the public into the deliberations on transit. He described the reasons for the measure he proposed, that it would stimulate public interest in transit and allow them to participate in its planning by requesting their opinion on what appear to be the two most popular routes. Supervisor Ward also believed the comparative bus and rail study he has proposed is equally important since it will provide the necessary technical and economic information to accompany the public advisory.

Chairman Hahn recounted that he asked Supervisor Ward to delay introducing his motion before the Board until after Commission members could be polled on the proposed measure. He also asked Supervisor Ward if the ballot measure could include language giving flexibility to develop bus or rail to the Airport.

Supervisor Ward suggest a third choice of bus from Union Station to the Airport.

Bob Geoghegan seconded Peter Tweedt's motion based on Supervisor Edelman's position that decisions on corridors and modes are technical ones and that not all the information pertinent to such decisions would be available to the public.

Councilman Ferraro questioned whether the alternative transit projects would cost the same.

Supervisor Ward said they did.

Councilman Ferraro asked whether funding is available for the alternative projects, as indicated in the ballot question.

Supervisor Ward indicated that Prop. 5 funds, combined with UMTA funding would be sufficient.

Councilman Ferraro asked what would happen to those areas whose Prop. 5 money was used for transit.

The Executive Director indicated that Prop. 5 funds used for transit would not be available for highway construction. Concerning the Federal funds, the Executive Director indicated that Federal policy on rail transit calls for analysis of alternatives to rail. This has been done for the Wilshire Corridor but not for a line to the airport.

Supervisor Ward indicated that previous Transportation Secretaries have said they will fund transit projects that the Los Angeles area can agree on.

Councilman Ferraro asked whether the People Mover project would be affected by the ballot measure.

Supervisor Ward said no.

Councilman Ferraro said he thought a "none of the above" choice would be required.

Supervisor Ward indicated he would support that addition.

Wendell Cox questioned whether UMTA would fund whatever local officials agreed on.

Ray Remy asked whether the Board could still revise or withdraw the measure.

Bob Geoghegan indicated that changes could be made up to August 25.

Mayor Russ questioned whether money was available to do any of the alternatives and did not like the term "require" in the ballot question and suggested that "advised" be substituted.

Supervisor Ward agreed to that change.

Ray Remy questioned whether the ballot measure presented full and clear choices to the voters.

Councilman Rubley supported the "none of the above" alternative since much of the County was not served by the alternative routes listed.

Supervisor Ward responded that available funding limited the scope of the system that could be built and reiterated his willingness to add "none" to the ballot question.

Barna Szabo questioned whether the Board can reconsider the ballot measure, as originally moved.

Chairman Hahn asked members to work with Supervisor Ward on the language of the ballot measure.

Councilman Zimmerman expressed concern that the ballot language precluded the possibility of new technology and asked that the Board reconsider their ballot question.

Wendell Cox indicated that the ballot measure may work against possible Federal approval of bus improvements in the Harbor and Century corridors.

Mayor Russ requested that the term "available funding" be changed to "if funding becomes available."

Councilman Ferraro indicated concern with the advisory ballot since the public will not get all the information necessary to make an intelligent choice.

There was further discussion of possible wording changes to the ballot question. Supervisor Ward indicated a willingness to make many of the changes requested by the Commissioners and keep the ballot question within the allowable 100-word length.

The Commission approved the motion to ask the Board of Supervisors to reconsider the ballot measure, with Supervisor Ward dissenting.

Chairman Hahn announced that all other items on the agenda will be continued to the next Commission meeting on September 13, 1978, at 3:00 p.m. at the Department of Water and Power Building, 111 North Hope Street, Room 1555-H, Los Angeles.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



JEROME C. PREMO  
Executive Director

JCP:kyt

Attachments